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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Poultry Division
Washington 25, D. C.

ACTION BY: All Supervisors
and Inspectors
Inspection Branch
Poultry Division

AMS PY-Instruction 918
Postmortem-5
Revised 2/26/57

DISPOSAL OF DISEASED POULTRY CARCASSES AND PARTS

I PURPOSE

The purpose of this instruction is to prescribe criteria governing the disposal and treatment of diseased or otherwise unfit poultry carcasses and parts thereof. This instruction supersedes and replaces AMS PY-Instruction 918 Postmortem-5 dated 7/1/55.

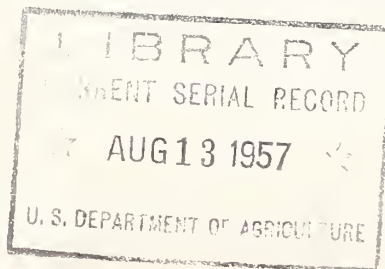
II AUTHORITY

Section 70.154 of the "Regulations Governing the Grading and Inspection of Poultry and Edible Products Thereof and United States Classes, Standards, and Grades With Respect Thereto" provides that, "At the time of evisceration under inspection service each carcass, or any part thereof, which is found to be unsound, unwholesome, or otherwise unfit for human food shall be condemned by the inspector and shall receive such treatment, under the supervision of the inspector as will prevent its use for human food and preclude dissemination of disease through consumption by animals."

III CRITERIA FOR DISPOSITION OF DISEASED AND OTHERWISE UNWHOLESOME POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Section 1. General

The carcasses or parts of carcasses of all poultry inspected at an official plant and found at the time of postmortem inspection, or at any subsequent inspection, to be affected with any of the diseases or conditions named in other sections contained herein, shall be disposed of in accordance with the section pertaining to the disease or condition. Appropriate guide-line memoranda may be issued from time to time as needed to cover definitions and application of terms as they pertain to disease processes and to unwholesomeness of poultry or poultry products and to cover new developments in poultry disease manifestations. Owing to the fact that it is impracticable to formulate rules covering every case and to designate at just what stage a process becomes loathsome or a disease noxious, the decision as to the disposal of all carcasses,



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parts, or organs not specifically covered by this instruction or official guide-line memoranda shall be left to the discretion of the inspector-in-charge of the station or plant. If the inspector-in-charge is in doubt concerning the disposition to be made, specimens from such carcasses shall be forwarded to the Laboratory for diagnosis, in accordance with official instructions concerning procedure to be followed.

Section 2. Tuberculosis

Carcasses affected with Tuberculosis shall be condemned.

Section 3. Leukosis Complex

Carcasses of poultry which are affected with any one or more of the several forms of the leukosis complex shall be condemned, except that carcasses affected with the ocular form only may be passed.

Section 4. Septicemia or Toxemia

Carcasses of poultry showing evidence of any septicemic or toxemic disease, or showing evidence of an abnormal physiologic state, shall be condemned.

Section 5. Disease Agents Dangerous to Man

Carcasses of poultry showing evidence of any disease which is characterized by the presence, in the meat, of organisms or toxins dangerous to the consumer, shall be condemned.

Section 6. Inflammatory Processes

Any organ or part of a carcass which is affected by an inflammatory process shall be condemned and, if there is evidence of general systemic disturbance, the whole carcass shall be condemned.

Section 7. Tumors

Any organ or part of a carcass which is affected by a tumor shall be condemned and when there is evidence of metastasis or that the general condition of the bird has been affected by the size, position, or nature of the tumor, the whole carcass shall be condemned.

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Section 8. Parasites

Edible organs or parts of carcasses which are found to be infested with parasites, or which show lesions of such infestation shall be condemned and, if the whole carcass is affected, the whole carcass shall be condemned.

Section 9. Bruises

Any part of a carcass which is badly bruised shall be condemned and, if the whole carcass is affected by, or as a result of the bruise, the whole carcass shall be condemned. Parts of a carcass which show only slight reddening from a bruise, may be passed for food.

Section 10. Cadavers

Carcasses of poultry showing evidence of having died from causes other than slaughter shall be condemned.

Section 11. Contamination

Carcasses of poultry contaminated by volatile oils, paints, poisons, gases, or other substances which affect the wholesomeness of the carcasses shall be condemned.

Section 12. Mutilation

Any organ or part of a carcass which has been contaminated following mutilation shall be condemned, and if the whole carcass is affected, the whole carcass shall be condemned.

Section 13. Overscald

Carcasses of poultry which have been overscalded resulting in cooked appearance of the flesh shall be condemned.

Section 14. Postmortem Changes

Carcasses of poultry deleteriously affected by postmortem changes shall be disposed of as follows:

- A. Carcasses which have reached a state of putrefaction or stinking fermentation shall be condemned.
- B. Any part of a carcass which is "green struck" shall be condemned and, if the carcass is so extensively affected that removal of affected parts is impracticable, the whole carcass shall be condemned.
- C. Carcasses affected by types of postmortem change which are superficial in nature may be certified for food after removal and condemnation of affected parts.

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Section 15. Approved Methods for Disposal of Condemed Carcasses or Parts


All condemned carcasses, or parts of carcasses, shall be disposed of by one of the following methods under the supervision of an inspector:

A. Steam Sterilization, which shall be accomplished by processing the condemned product in a pressure tank under at least 40 lbs. of steam pressure maintained for a sufficient time to effectively destroy it for food purposes. Tanks and equipment used for this purpose or for rendering or preparing inedible products shall be in rooms or compartments separate from those used for the preparation of edible products. There shall be no connection, by means of pipes, or otherwise, between tanks, rooms or compartments containing inedible products and those containing edible products.

B. Incineration or complete destruction by burning.

C. Chemical denaturing which shall be accomplished by the liberal application to all carcasses and parts thereof, of

- (a) Crude carbolic acid
- (b) Kerosene or fuel oil, or
- (c) Any phenolic disinfectant conforming to commercial standards CS 70-41 or CS 71-41 which shall be used in at least 2% emulsion or solution.


Hermon I Miller, Director
Poultry Division, AMS